

I am a relatively new listener to XM radio and have thoroughly enjoyed the wide variety of programming they offer. Conventional FM radio in this area is in all honesty just a barrage of commercials and the same music over and over again. I believe the majority of our local FM stations are just transmitters with pre-recorded tapes. For example, the morning of the 9-11 attacks I was at work and couldn't get any information of what was going on. Most stations still played their canned programming as if nothing was happening. I finally tuned in PBS which I think was coming from Tallahassee, FL to hear of the attack. XM Radio is cutting edge. Besides a wide variety of music channels, they have a great line-up of live news channels and call in shows. I especially enjoy the Instant Traffic and Weather additions they recently made. When traveling to Tampa, FL to see my grand daughter, I feel it's very beneficial to know what the weather is and also traffic problems I can avoid. I also enjoy listening to some of the other cities especially the New York (tri-state) area where I grew up before going into the military. It brings back memories.

In closing, I ask that you please reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to further encourage continued growth of XM radio.

Thank You,

SMSgt Richard Kuter, USAF Retired